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PAGE 01 STATE 079176
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FM SECRETATE WASHDC
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INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

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AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY BEIJING
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMCONSUL GUANGZHOU

CAPTION REMOVED BY S/S (EK) ON 3/1/93

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EXDIS, BEIJING PASS TO SHANGHAI

E.O. 12065: RDS 3/25/00 (ARMACOST, MICHAEL H.)

TAGS: POIP, CH, US —

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PAGE 02 STATE 079176

SUBJECT: PRC VICE FOREIGN MINISTER ZHANG WEIJIN VISITS U.S.

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Date: 5-19-93

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REF: STATE 75718 (NOTAL)

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2. (U) ITINERARY AND SCHEDULE. CHINESE VICE FOREIGN MINISTER ZHANG WENJUN (PORTFOLIO: DEPARTMENTS OF AMERICAN AND OCEANIAN AFFAIRS, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, EUROPEAN AFFAIRS) (RECENTLY REINQUISHED) VISITED HONOLULU MARCH 13-14. WHERE HE RESTED, TOURED, HEARD A BRIEFING AT HEADQUARTERS, CINCPAC, AND CARRIED OUT DISCUSSIONS OF THE SITUATION IN THE CINCPAC COMMAND AREA WITH INTERESTED GENERAL AND FLAG OFFICERS OF THE COMMAND. WHILE IN HONOLULU HE WAS A GUEST OF THE CINCPAC ADMIRAL CONG. THE VISIT AND DISCUSSIONS WERE REMARKABLE FOR THE CORDIAL, FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE IN WHICH THEY WERE CONDUCTED.

3. (U) ARRIVING IN WASHINGTON MARCH 15 (SATURDAY), ZHANG AND HIS PARTY (JI CHAOZHU, DEP DIR AMERICAN AND OCEANIAN

AFFAIRS; CHEN SONGLU, DIR, OFFICE OF SOUTH-ASIAN AFFAIRS; ZHANG WENPU, DEP DIR, OFFICE OF U.S. AFFAIRS) WERE GREETED BY EAM ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE. ON SUNDAY, MARCH 16, HOLBROOKE WAS HOSTED DINNER FOR ZHANG AND JI (OTHERS: P. TARNOFF, R. BARTHOLOMEW). WHILE EAM/PRCM DIRECTOR FREEMAN HOSTED CHEN, ZHANG AND NEA/INS DIRECTOR SCHAEFER, NEA/PAB DIRECTOR PECK, AS WELL AS CHINESE EMBASSY AND EAM/PRCM COLLEAGUES.

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PAGE 03

STATE 079176

4. (U) TALKS BEGAN MONDAY, MARCH 17 AT DEPARTMENT. DEPUTY SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER CHAIRED MORNING AND AFTER-NOON SESSIONS. SECRETARY VANCE WAS HOST AT LUNCH AT WHICH THE DEPUTY SECRETARY, UNDER SECRETARY NEWSOM, CLARK CLIFFORD AND SENATOR GANN WERE RANKING ATTENDEES. ALL DISCUSSION ON MONDAY WAS DEVOTED TO SOUTHWEST AND SOUTH ASIA (INCLUDING THE INDIAN OCEAN). EVENING FREE.

5. (U) TUESDAY, MARCH 18, ZHANG HAD BREAKFAST WITH SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE, LUNCH WITH HOUSE

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FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, CALLED ON NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR BRZEZINSKI AND ACDA DIRECTOR EARLE. DINNER WITH GENERAL SEIGNIOUS, ACDA DIRECTOR (RETIRED), WHO HAD BEEN ZHANG'S INTERLOCUTOR DURING SECDEF BROWN'S VISIT.

6. (U) WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, ZHANG CALLED ON THE VICE PRESIDENT, HELD A PRIVATE MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY, HAD A "WORKING LUNCH" WITH THE DEPUTY SECRETARY, AND MET TWICE WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE. DINNER AT CHINESE EMBASSY, RANKING U.S. GUEST, DEPUTY SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER.

7. (U) THURSDAY, MARCH 20, ZHANG CALLED ON STR AMBASSADOR ASKEW FOR DISCUSSION OF TEXTILE ISSUE, THEN DROVE TO NEW YORK. ON MARCH 21, HE ADDRESSED THE COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS, THEN LEFT SUNDAY FOR BEIJING VIA FRANCE.

8. (U) CLOUD ATMOSPHERE OF TALKS WAS ONE OF GREAT INFORMALITY, RELAXED CANDOR, CORDIALITY, FRIENDLINESS. TALKS MARKED A NEW STAGE OF FRIENDLY, MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL CONSULTATION IN U.S./CHINA RELATIONS. THERE WERE INDICATIONS THAT OUR VIEWS HAD IMPACT ON THE CHINESE AND THEIRS INFLUENCED OUR PERCEPTIONS. WE INTEND TO CONTINUE SUCH CONSULTATIONS TWICE OR THRICE A YEAR FROM NOW ON. SUBJECTS DISCUSSED INCLUDED AFGHANISTAN, PAKISTAN, IRAN, SECRET

PAGE 04

STATE 079176

INDIAN OCEAN, SINO-INDIAN RELATIONS, NEPAL ZONE OF PEACE, SOUTHEAST ASIA, KOREA, JAPAN, YUGOSLAVIA, CSCE, AS WELL AS ARMS CONTROL AND BILATERAL ISSUES. EXTRAORDINARY LEVEL OF PROTOCOL ACCORDED ZHANG BY U.S. CONTRIBUTED TO

SUCCESSFUL DISCUSSIONS, WHICH WERE, IN MANY RESPECTS, THE FIRST "NORMAL" DIPLOMATIC EXCHANGE WITH THE CHINESE TO BE CONDUCTED IN WASHINGTON IN OVER 30 YEARS.

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Page: 4 Reason: B1,A5
Page: 5 Reason: B1,A5

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B1,A5

22. (U) IN GENERAL, BOTH U.S. AND CHINESE WERE STRUCK BY WIDE AREAS OF CONVERGENCE IN OUR THINKING. FEW AREAS OF DIVERGENCE, WHICH MOSTLY RELATE TO TACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS, MEANS NOT ENDS.

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B1,A5

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